

## INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Poland

REPORT

SUBJECT 1. Imports of Iron Ore  
2. Production and Export of Metallurgical Products

DATE DISTR. 27 October 1955 25X1

NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE OF INFO.

REQUIREMENT NO. RD 25X1

PLACE ACQUIRED

REFERENCES

DATE ACQUIRED

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1. The total production of metallurgical goods in Poland for 1955 will be four millions tons, and the planned goal for 1956 is five million tons. Only 10 percent of the total production is exported, while the remainder is reserved for domestic consumption.
2. Poland imports a total of four and one-half million tons of iron ore, while the domestic mines supply 500,000 tons. The imported ore yields two and one-quarter million tons of processed goods, and the remaining one and three-quarter million tons is derived from local raw materials and 40 percent scrap iron, the composition used in the Siemens process. The following sources of imports of iron ore are known: three million tons (plus 100,000 tons of Keirczyn iron<sup>1</sup>) from the USSR at the rate of 60 rubles per ton; 200,000 tons from China; 184,000 tons 77,000 tons 27,000 tons from Bulgaria; 25X1 25X1
3. In order to reach the optimal figures planned for 1956, Poland will attempt to buy an additional 250,000 tons of iron ore from the USSR and will also attempt to increase her supplies from other sources. Fulfillment of this aspect of the plan is very much open to doubt.
4. Exports of metallurgical goods in 1955 are estimated as follows: 70,000 tons to the USSR; 44,000 tons to China<sup>2</sup>; and 40,000 tons to Bulgaria. The exports planned for 1956 are as follows: 72,000 tons to the USSR; 50,000 tons to China; and 46,000 tons to Bulgaria.
5. The low figure of exports to the USSR has caused considerable anxiety to the Ministry of Foreign Trade and the Ministry of Mines. The balance of trade with the USSR has been negative for the past two years. The construction of the large steel mills at Nowa Huta (N 50-05, E 20-04) and Czestochowa (N 50-48, E 19-07) was originally instigated and aided by the Russians with the understanding that they would buy the entire output of the mills. However, the changes in economic policy following Stalin's death caused the Russians to

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lose interest in these plants, and Polish attempts to revive that interest in the 1954 trade talks were in vain. Polish efforts to secure a larger amount of iron ore from the USSR were not successful, and imports from all sources for 1956 will not increase the 1955 total by more than 200,000 tons. The enormous shipping costs prohibit any substantial imports of iron ore from China.

1. [REDACTED] Comment: Probably iron ore from the Kerch area.

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2. [REDACTED] Comment: China bought 150,000 tons of metallurgical goods [REDACTED] and the goods are awaiting shipment in Polish ports.

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